

English National Ballet Announces Winners of Emerging Dancer 2024

English National Ballet is thrilled to announce that the winner of the 2024 **Emerging Dancer Award** is **Breanna Foad**.



Photo caption: English National Ballet's Emerging Dancer winner Breanna Foad © Laurent Liotardo

Having performed the Venetian Carnival duet from ***Satanella*** and ***Penrose***, a new contemporary work by Ching-Ying Chien, with her partner Thiago Pereira, Breanna Foad was announced as the winner during the Emerging Dancer event, hosted by English National Ballet's Artistic Director, Aaron S. Watkin, at Sadler's Wells this evening (Friday 24 May 2024).

Of winning the 2024 Emerging Dancer Award, Breanna Foad said: *"I am incredibly shocked and grateful for being the winner of Emerging Dancer. I've learned so much during this process. It's such an honor to win this prize and I feel so motivated to keep growing as an artist."*

The evening also saw **Anna-Babette Winkler**, also an Emerging Dancer finalist, named as the recipient of the Corps de Ballet Award, acknowledging her exceptional work over the last

year, while Soloist **Precious Adams** was awarded the People's Choice Award, as voted for by members of the public throughout the season.

The event allows English National Ballet to showcase the excellence of its artists. This year's esteemed judging panel included Amanda Britton MA, Chief Executive, Principal and Artistic Director of Rambert School; Monica Zamora, Former Principal Dancer of Birmingham Royal Ballet; Edward Watson MBE, Former Principal Dancer of The Royal Ballet; and Isabela Coracy, Senior Artist of Ballet Black.

Aaron S. Watkin, Artistic Director of English National Ballet said: *"Emerging Dancer is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate English National Ballet's incredible young talent and a bright future of ballet . The standard we saw on stage tonight has been exceptional and a joy to watch - I know it will have been very difficult for our panel to pick a winner. Huge congratulations to Breanna Foad, I can't wait to see what's next for this brilliant dancer."*

The other finalists this year were Anna Ciriano, Shunhei Fuchiyama, Jose María Lorca Menchón, Thiago Pereira and Anna-Babette Winkler.

English National Ballet Philharmonic performed live throughout the evening, finished with the Delibes Suite pas de deux performed by the 2022 Emerging Dancer winner Eric Snyder and People's Choice Precious Adams.

A full recording of the event will be available on English National Ballet's [YouTube](#) channel from Thursday 30 May, for a limited time of 30 days.

Images can be downloaded [here](#).

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Emerging Dancer 2024 is supported by CHANEL.

The People's Choice Award is supported by Alexis and Frances Prens.

-ENDS-

For further information, interview requests, and images, please contact Inês Carvalho, Senior Press Officer, on ines.carvalho@ballet.org.uk

Notes to Editors

English National Ballet is a National Portfolio Organisation supported by Arts Council England. Ballymore is Principal Building Partner of English National Ballet.

About English National Ballet

English National Ballet has a long and distinguished history. Founded in 1950 as London Festival Ballet by the great English dancers Alicia Markova and Anton Dolin, it has been at the forefront of ballet's growth and evolution ever since.

English National Ballet brings world class ballet to the widest possible audience through performances across the UK and on eminent international stages; its distinguished orchestra, English National Ballet Philharmonic; its digital platforms Ballet on Demand and

BalletActive; being a UK leader in creative learning and engagement practice, building innovative partnerships to deliver flagship programmes such as Dance for Parkinson's; and through talent development initiatives including Ballet Futures which looks to create a more diverse and inclusive future for the artform.

English National Ballet continues to add ground-breaking new works to its repertoire whilst celebrating the tradition of great classical ballet, gaining acclaim for artistic excellence and creativity. 2019 saw the Company enter a new chapter in its history with a move to a purpose-built state-of-the-art home in east London, allowing a renewed commitment to creativity, ambition, and connection to more people, near and far, than ever before.